

Remarks/Arguments:

With this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Support for this amendment is found generally throughout the application, and more specifically, at page 7, lines 6-12. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-52 are pending.

Claims 1-9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Hausler (U.S. Patent No. 3,881,957). Claims 1-13 and 15-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Wilkinson et al. (EP 0 736 921) in view of Hausler.

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's inclusion of an Interview Summary with this Office Action. The Interview Summary reflects that an amendment to the claims where "the catalytic component consisting of a support of an electrically non-conductive material would obviate Hausler being readable on the claims." Accordingly, with applicants' filing of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE), the applicants amended claim 1 to recite "a first catalyst supported on a material consisting of an electrically non-conducting support."

With this Office Action, however, the Examiner now suggests that Hausler does teach a catalyst supported on a material consisting of an electrically non-conducting support, albeit indirectly.

The Office Action now suggests amending the claims to recite "a first catalyst directly supported on an electrically non-conducting support." The Office Action notes that with this claimed amendment, the claims would then not need to specify the closed-ended transition phrase "consisting of" as previously presented. With this Amendment, the applicants believe that the claims are allowable, consistent with the comments and directions provided in the Office Action.

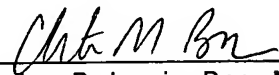
Accordingly, the applicants have now amended claim 1 to recite "a first catalyst directly supported on an electrically non-conducting support" and have removed the phrase "a material consisting of."

Appln. No.: 10/018,607
Amendment Dated July 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 18, 2006

JMYT-252US

The applicants have amended the claims consistent with the Office Action suggestion. With this Amendment, the applicants submit that the pending claims are now in a condition for allowance and respectfully request early notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Lewis, Reg. No. 36,201
Christian M. Bauer, Reg. No. 51,443
Attorneys for Applicants

CMB/lrb

Dated: July 21, 2006

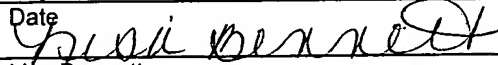
P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

July 21, 2006

Date



Lisa Bennett

LRB_C:\NRPORTBL\RP\LISA\33963_1.DOC